

## **Biography for Rick Blum**

Rick Blum is the Policy Director of the Reporters Committee, and since 2006 has coordinated [News Media for Open Government](#), a coalition of media groups promoting open government policies and practices. The coalition actively and successfully supported passage of the 2007 amendments to the Freedom of Information Act and the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016.

Blum has testified before House and Senate committees several times on transparency issues. Blum was the founding director of OpenTheGovernment, a broad coalition promoting transparency in government. He currently serves on its steering committee.

He holds a master's degree from Indiana University, where his studies focused on democratization efforts in Russia, and a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Berkeley. He lives in Silver Spring, Md., with his wife and two children.